



**ADVANCE
QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT
October – December 2008
Submitted by Pact Nigeria
Cooperative Agreement #620-A-00-05-00096-00**

List of Acronyms

AAIN Action Aid International Nigeria
AAN AIDS Alliance Nigeria
ABGREMO Akpabuyo Bakassi Green Movement
ACE Alliance for Credible Elections
ADVANCE Advocacy, Awareness and Civic Empowerment Project
ANCOR Anti-corruption Revolution Campaign
CASS Centre for Advanced Social Sciences
CIRDDOC Civil Resource Development and Documentation Centre
CISHAN Civil Society for HIV/AIDS in Nigeria
CISLAC Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre
CPPC Centre for Public-Private Cooperation
CSO Civil Society Organization
EFCC Economic and Financial Crimes Commission
EITI Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
ERC Electoral Reform Committee
FOI Freedom of Information
FOMWAN Federation of Muslim Women Associations of Nigeria
GON Government of Nigeria
IMC Interfaith Mediation Centre
JDPC Justice Development and Peace Commission
JONAPWD Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities
LGA Local Government Area
NASS National Assembly
NBA Nigerian Bar Association
NEEDS National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
NEITI Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
NGO Non-Governmental Organization
PWYP Publish What You Pay
SEEDS State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy
USAID United States Agency for International Development
WANGONeT West Africa NGO Network
WOTCLEF Women Trafficking and Child Labor Eradication Foundation
ZCC Zero Corruption Coalition

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I. BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

A. Activity Summary

Implementing Partner: Pact, Inc.
Activity Name: Advocacy, Awareness, and Civic Empowerment (ADVANCE) Project
Activity Objectives: Strengthened civil society organization (CSO) capacity for effective program and financial management Increased CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key policy reforms such as budget transparency, access to information, and judicial oversight Strengthened public-private partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives
USAID/Nigeria SO: SO11: Strengthened Foundations for Democratic Governance
Life of Activity (start and end dates): May 23, 2005 through May 22, 2010
Total Estimated Contract/Agreement Amount: \$8,000,000.00
Obligations to date: \$7,623,848
Current Pipeline Amount: \$ 1,473,287, of which \$ 326,694 is already obligated to sub grantees and therefore not available for any purpose; leaving an Effective Pipeline Amount of \$ 1,146,593
Accrued Expenditures this Quarter: \$ 274,135
Activity Cumulative Accrued Expenditures to Date: \$ 6,150,561
Estimated Expenditures Next Quarter: \$ 358,563
Report Submitted by: Dan Spealman, Pact Nigeria Country Rep.

B. Summary of Outputs

Management outputs

Primary capacity building and grants/program management accomplishments this period included the following:

- Supported existing partner CSOs through fund disbursements, oversight and mentoring.
- Processed no-cost extension modifications for a number of partner CSOs.
- Made a new subgrant award to PWYP.
- Prepared and submitted the FY 08 Annual performance report to USAID.
- Finalized and submitted the FY 09 work plan and sent revised FY 09 budget along with the revised PMP to USAID.
- Annual capacity re-assessment of targeted partner CSOs completed.
- Carried out capacity assessment of Inter-Faith Mediation Centre (IMC).
- Continued the provision of technical assistance/ mentoring to partner CSOs in project implementation and reporting.
- Continued the on-going reconciliations and closeout of completed projects.
- Held advocacy skills and planning training workshop for CSO partners.
- Mid-Term external evaluation of ADVANCE program carried out by USAID

This quarter, Pact continued to provide its subgrantees with ongoing mentoring and oversight support in program implementation and reporting. A number of partners whose project period had elapsed received no-cost extensions to enable them complete their outstanding activities. An additional subgrant was made to PWYP for the implementation of their 2008 Annual General Meeting. Pact also participated in USAID's mid-term external evaluation of the ADVANCE program, and finalized and submitted to USAID the revised FY 09 work plan, budget and PMP. The FY 08 annual performance report was prepared and submitted to USAID and all subsequent requests for additional information/clarifications were quickly responded to.

Program outputs

- CISLAC held a review meeting with energy correspondents and CSOs on the NEITI process in Nigeria.
- CISLAC provided technical support to the various committees of the House of Representatives on solid minerals, petroleum resources (upstream and downstream) and gas on the NEITI audit process.
- CPPC conducted its Needs Assessment Validation workshop for CSO's engaging with the NEITI process in Nigeria.
- CPPC developed a reference manual to aid understanding of the NEITI audit process and terminologies.
- PPDC produced and distributed 1,000 copies of a book entitled *Non State actors and Procurement Watch in Nigeria*.
- PPDC continued to provide technical support to the Bureau of Public Procurement.
- ZCC conducted a two-day civil society stakeholders' review meeting on the NEITI audit report 1999-2004.
- PWYP held its Annual General Meeting of the coalition.
- ActionAid held its project review meeting
- ActionAid visited the National Budget Office to advocate for budget changes.

- ActionAid held its Economic Literacy and Budget Accountability for Governance (ELBAG) workshop.
- ActionAid conducted its Media Advocates Program (MAP-2).
- ActionAid carried out an advocacy visit to the Lagos state Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget.
- ActionAid provided participatory budget training for Budget Monitoring and Evaluation and Audit to the staff of the Ejigbo Local Council Development Area of Lagos state.

C. Recent Programmatic Context

Budget Overview

The debate around the N2.64 trillion amended 2009 Appropriation Bill gathered momentum as the different arms of government began to engage with the bill. The lawmakers had promised that the 2009 budget would be passed on or before the last day of 2008 even as the President in his 48th independence anniversary speech said he would not resort to fire brigade approach in finding solutions to the Nigerian problems.

At the state level, the National Council of States expressed fears about the economy and cautioned the federal and state governments against wasteful spending in 2009. Experts counseled that the 2009 budget be planned using performance based indices in a manner that would eliminate abuses as well as close scrutiny of recurrent expenditures.

As part of the federal government's steps to eliminate abuses in the budget, a 3-day national stakeholders' summit on 'Deepening the Anticorruption Fight and Sustenance of Quality Service in Nigeria' was organized by the House of Representatives Committee on Anticorruption, National Ethics and Values, which was declared open by the President Umaru Yar'Adua. The President had constantly expressed concern over the high rate of corruption and other malpractices which constitute serious threats to the attainment and success of his administration's Vision 2020 agenda.

In the same light, Nigerians have expressed disappointment and there has been open criticism over the Federal Government's claim to have realized N400 billion from unspent capital budget of ministries and other government agencies. This was announced by the President in his Independence Day broadcast as a sign of his administration's effort to sanitize the financial and budgetary process as well as an indication of the government's zero-tolerance for corruption. Some citizens have criticized the statement because saving such a huge amount of money at a time when infrastructural facilities are begging for repairs, with hospitals lacking drugs, and about 69 million Nigerians living below the poverty line is an overly simplistic way of looking at governance.

Anti-Corruption Overview

This quarter, the war on corruption continued to record successes on the one hand and setbacks on the other. Successes included a number of high profile prosecutions, even though in some cases the outcome portends more of a dwindling anticorruption climate than a blossoming one. A major sign of progress in the anticorruption war is the demonstration time and again that even long after they have left office, the long arm of the law will inevitably catch up with those who run afoul of it. During the quarter under review, Mr. Femi Fani-Kayode, a former Special Assistant to the then president Olusegun Obasanjo and also a

former aviation minister was arraigned in court on a 47-count charge of money laundering and allied offences and remanded in prison custody for ten days. He was eventually granted bail and the case was adjourned to January 28, 2009. This sends a strong signal that just about anything is possible in the fight against corruption in the country.

On the other hand, in what analysts have described as a trivialization of the war on corruption by the judiciary, the immediate past governor of Edo state, Chief Lucky Igbinedion got off easy with a N3.5M fine, after having been convicted of neglect to make a full disclosure of his assets -- an offence for which the prescribed punishment¹ is a 5-year jail term. The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) has vowed to appeal the verdict handed down by Justice Abdullahi Kafarati of the Federal High Court Enugu.

Also this quarter, Mallam Nuhu Ribadu, the pioneer chairman of the EFCC, once a celebrated Nigerian anticorruption icon was not only demoted from the rank of Assistant Inspector-General of Police (IGP) to Deputy Commissioner of Police – two steps lower but also dishonorably dismissed from the Nigeria Police Force by the Nigeria Police Service Commission. Mallam Ribadu's demotion and subsequent dismissal from the force was reported to have been predicted by Chief James Ibori, immediate past governor of Delta state, according to a Nigerian newspaper.² This could bode very poorly for Mallam Ribadu if the reported predictions that he will also be jailed come true. With only the last part of the alleged four-part prediction still pending, the pervasive impression – which is not healthy for the anticorruption campaign of the federal government – is that the Yar'adua-led government is merely acting out a script written for it by a powerful clique of the president's erstwhile colleagues, the former governors, many of whom are embattled with cases of corrupt self-enrichment and money laundering both within the country and even offshore. Considering Ribadu's experience, which several anticorruption analysts have summed up to be the *persecution of an anticorruption icon*, a good number of Nigerians have warned that his ordeal at the hands of the Nigerian government could undermine the future commitment of other public officials to the anticorruption war in the country. To say the least, Ribadu's experience lately has eroded the confidence of a great majority of Nigerians in the federal government's anticorruption crusade.

However, despite the aforementioned setback, the EFCC, the National Assembly, the Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences Commission (ICPC); the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI); the Technical Unit on Governance and Anticorruption Reforms (TUGAR); and the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) continued to take positive steps in their statutory anticorruption obligations and have contributed positively to good governance and development this quarter. Civil society organizations were also not left out of the anticorruption efforts. They implemented a number of project activities that further strengthened the war against corruption and promotion of good governance and development in Nigeria.

The National Assembly

In furtherance of their oversight functions, both houses of the National Assembly continued to focus on investigating some past activities of government ministries, agencies and parastatals. For example, the Senate Committee on Water Resources in its investigation this

¹ S. 27(3) Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (Establishment) Act, 2004

² Thisday newspaper of November 23, 2008, p.128

quarter discovered that about 65 percent of the N24 billion borehole projects undertaken by the last federal administration were untraceable.

Furthermore, the National Assembly this quarter spent considerable time scrutinizing the 2009 appropriation bill, which the executive submitted to the two houses for approval. Whereas the senate passed the bill expeditiously for the reason of ensuring a hitch-free start to the new fiscal year, the Lower House was more thorough in its scrutiny. This has yielded positive results. The leadership of the House said that one of the biggest revelations that came out from its inquiries was that in the appropriation budget of the Ministry of Works, N40 billion was allocated to a number of projects that had already been executed in 2008.

The House of Representatives Committee on Power has completed the power sector investigation, which was on-going as of last quarter. The report from that investigation is set to be hotly debated in plenary soon. The House leadership has assured the public that the debate on that report will be televised nationwide. During the committee's public hearing sessions, the psyche of ordinary citizens was jarred in no small way by the mind-boggling revelations of massive corruption perpetrated by government officials and their accomplices in the private sector. What remains to be seen is how the Nigerian government through its relevant arms and agencies will in the final analysis, apply the uncontroverted facts and figures thrown up by that inquiry to shore up its anticorruption credentials.

On October 29, 2008 the House Committee on Ethics and Privileges, had a renowned legal activist Mr. Festus Keyamo in audience. He had been summoned to shed light on his petition to the EFCC in which he alleged that the leadership of the House had committed acts of financial impropriety in its recent N2.4 billion car purchase deal. In the said petition, Mr. Keyamo had averred that Peugeot Automobile Nigeria (PAN) supplied a particular model of vehicle which was cheaper by N1,109,175 apiece than the model quoted on its pro forma invoice. He also indicated that the sum of N117,974,375 representing value added tax on the transaction was paid twice. Lastly, he argued that a bulk purchase such as this would no doubt earn a discount, and so far there had been no word on any discount. Keyamo is deeply concerned that someone must have corruptly benefited from these irregularities at the expense of the Nigerian people and must be held to account. Unfortunately, to the dismay of Nigerians, members of the committee turned the hearing into an opportunity to harass the legal activist, probing the source of his information instead of looking into the allegation on its merits. Many notable legal authorities in the country have berated the House committee for leaving out the substance of the allegation and rather chasing shadows. According to them, a plethora of judicial decisions exist, which provide that the test for admissibility of any piece of evidence is "relevance" of the piece of evidence to the inquiry at hand, and not the source.

Finally, the House of Representatives during its investigation this quarter unearthed over N3 trillion of revenue collected by ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) in the last five years which has yet to be paid into the Federation Account. According to Mr. Dimeji Bankole, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the House discovered that various MDAs were withholding over N3 trillion due to the Federation Account. The National Assembly therefore promised Nigerians that it would take budget monitoring seriously in 2009. This discovery calls for cooperation between civil society and anticorruption agencies and initiatives towards budget monitoring – not only on the demand side but also on the supply side, since projected expenditure in any fiscal year is usually predicated *inter alia*, upon the projected internally-generated revenue within the year.

Freedom of Information Bill

This quarter, the pending Freedom of Information Bill before the National Assembly suffered a major setback. The Senate committee reviewing the recommendations on the bill proposed amendments that many believe would take the wind off its sails if passed. This has triggered protests from members of the public. S.2 of the amendments proposed by the Senate will now make it compulsory for anyone seeking certain types of information from government to first obtain a court order, the requirement for which will include stating what he needs the information for. It is in the discretion of the court to refuse such a request if it considers the release of the information a threat to national security. The proposed amendment also extends the period within which response to the information request must be made from 10 to 30 working days. Worse still, it does not require any public official to justify his refusal to provide the requested information. Of course, if no reason is given for a refusal, the courts will have no basis to review any such refusal. Equally controversial in the revised version of the bill is the curious removal of a clause that seeks to protect whistle blowers. By this, people may no longer be emboldened to volunteer information of wrongdoing to relevant authorities since the law does not provide them any protection. The consensus among Nigerian civil society seems to be that passing a lame version of the bill would be tantamount to not passing it at all.

To show their displeasure at the proposed amendment to the bill, a number of civil society organizations collaborated with a legal outfit, Bamidele Aturu & Company, to campaign against the proposed amendment. Nigerian newspapers were not left out of the advocacy; some of them devoted their editorial pages to advocating against the proposed amendment. Speaking on behalf of the Executive at the Bamidele Aturu first annual Law and Social Development Lecture, the Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Chief Michael Aondoakaa assured Nigerians that all impediments slowing down the passage of the Freedom of Information (FOI) bill would be addressed with a view to passing the bill soon.

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC)

The commission prosecuted several corrupt Nigerians in the public and private spheres this quarter. In one of those prosecutions, a former minister and one-time presidential aide, Mr, Femi Fani-Kayode was charged with abuse of public office and misappropriation of public funds and subsequently remanded to prison custody. The former Edo State Governor, Chief Lucky Igbinedion also had his day in court. He was convicted by the Federal High Court sitting in Enugu and a fine of N3.5 million was imposed on him. Even though the Commission succeeded in prosecuting him and securing a conviction, it however is not satisfied with the quantum of sentencing, and has vowed to challenge it on appeal.

Other activities of the Commission this quarter included the re-arraignment of former Nigerian Ports Authority helmsman, Chief Olabode George and six others on charges ranging from abuse of office to illegal award of contracts, investigation into the spending by the 774 local government councils in the country of the whopping sum of N3.3 trillion allocations made to them between June 1999 and May 2007 under the Obasanjo administration, and the prosecution of James Onanefe Ibori, former Governor of Delta state. EFCC also made progress in its resolve to check the incidence of cyber crimes. It arraigned 58 persons before the Federal High Court in Kaduna on charges of advance fee fraud.

Other significant activities of the Commission this quarter include the submission of its annual report to the National Assembly and the Presidency. It also launched its

Anticorruption Revolution Campaign. The launch took place in December to mark the 2008 International Day against Corruption. The campaign, codenamed ANCOR is envisioned to make all Nigerians take an active and determined stand against corruption in their public and private dealings. The objectives of ANCOR include: sensitizing and educating all Nigerians on corruption and its negative effects on their daily lives; mobilizing opinion leaders and all Nigerians both within and outside the country against corruption; creating a sustained multi-stakeholder movement for integrity in the public and private spheres through the establishment of a network of volunteers in all communities. At the campaign launch, Mr. John Kufour, the immediate past President of Ghana delivered the keynote address entitled: *The Imperatives of Citizens' Involvement in Anticorruption Crusade*. The Chairperson of EFCC, Mrs. Farida Waziri and the President Alhaji Umar Yar'Adua used the occasion to call for the removal of immunity clause in the 1999 Constitution. The President criticized the clause as having become a cover for non-performance, ineptitude and corrupt practices.

The Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offence Commission (ICPC)

The ICPC was equally active this quarter. Among other things, it arrested the chairman of Ondo State Local Government Service Commission who was alleged to have been using his office to plant syndicates in all local government councils of the state, and with whose connivance he has been inflating the payroll with ghost workers and siphoning off the councils' funds.

The Commission also organized a two-day Integrity Train the Trainer workshop for primary school teachers in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. The initiative was part of the Commission's resolve to tackle corruption where it holds the most potential – at the formative stage of the citizen's life. At the workshop, the Chairman of the Commission, Emmanuel Ayoola, a retired Justice of the Supreme Court announced the Commission's plan of producing what it has termed an *Integrity Manual* for Nigerian primary schools. The manual, he said was proposed to serve as a code of ethics to guide primary school teachers on proven best practices applied in inculcating integrity among children.

The Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative

This quarter, Nigerian civil society organizations rode upon the active support of the Pact-ADVANCE program to further enliven the extractive industry revenue transparency environment. CISLAC, realizing the crucial role of well informed and strategic media reportage in the struggle for entrenchment of transparency, organized a roundtable briefing workshop on the NEITI Process for the Nigerian CSOs and Energy correspondents. The program availed Nigerians the opportunity to know the state of the NEITI 2005 Audit Report and the necessary advocacy activities to carry out in light of the report. The event drew enormous media attention, which enlightened the public and ended long-term speculation on the state of the 2005 audit report. Mallam Haruna Sa'eed, the Executive secretary of the NEITI informed the participants that the 2005 audit report has been concluded and sent to the Presidency for consideration. According to him, when the President approves, the report will be officially released to the public.

The Publish What You Pay coalition in Nigeria, with the support of Pact ADVANCE held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on December 12, 2008. The AGM was particularly a welcome idea for Pact Nigeria, because it served as a forum to resolve the internal conflict

that had almost wrecked the campaign in the past few years. It afforded the coalition an opportunity to tackle leadership issues and put PWYP-Nigeria back on a sound footing.

Niger Delta

Last quarter, this report discussed how President Umar Yar'Adua created a new ministry known as the Ministry of Niger Delta, whose mandate would be to coordinate all development efforts designed for the conflict-ridden Niger Delta region. The creation of the new ministry was conceived as part of the ways the Yar'adua administration could demonstrate its determination to give the region more focused attention in addressing its many issues. However as soon as the ministry came into being, it triggered a flurry of activities with interest groups lobbying to ensure they got what they felt was their fair share in the accompanying appointments. This created tension on its own.

II. QUARTER PROGRESS

A. Program Management

Regional/HQ Support

Pact Headquarters and the Regional Office in Nairobi continued their usual support to Pact Nigeria through information sharing and advice on issues that have enhanced the management of the ADVANCE program. In addition, the Pact Africa Regional Office also contributed leadership support for a week in October at the expense of the Regional Office. The visit by Dwan Dixon, Pact Regional Director for Africa, was designed to provide support to the Acting Country Representative while the Country Representative was away on leave that month.

General Portfolio Management

The ADVANCE subgrant portfolio as of this quarter stands at 40 subprojects for the life of the award. That figure includes a one-off activity subgrant made this quarter to PWYP as well as earlier consultancy-type subprojects previously not captured. The cumulative number of CSO partners stands at 28. The ongoing subgrants as of this quarter stood at eight, but the subgrants of NBA, PPDC, CISLAC, CPPC and PWYP were completed during the quarter. A number of subgrantees are closing out no-cost extensions, and many are likely to be re-engaged next quarter under the impending fresh solicitation. The three partners that will continue implementation of their ongoing projects are AAIN, ZCC and WANGONeT. The WANGONeT project was extended at no additional cost to complete some activities contingent upon an input awaited from another partner. Pact Nigeria also finished the closeout of WOTCLEF's completed project, which is one of the first generation partners.

During this reporting period, Pact continued to closely monitor the program activities of all its CSO partners to ensure quality in their program implementation. This included attendance and input at the following partner activities by members of the ADVANCE staff:

- CPPC's Needs Assessment Validation Workshop on NEITI Audit Process, carried out in Lagos on October 30 and 31, 2008;
- CISLAC's Review Meeting with Energy Correspondents and CSOs on the NEITI Process, held in Abuja on November 6, 2008;
- ZCC's analysis of and advocacy on the NEITI 1999 – 2004 Audit Report, held in Abuja from November 27 and 28, 2008;
- Publish What You Pay (Nigeria)'s Annual General Meeting, held in Abuja on December 12, 2008.

In addition, the ADVANCE team, along with other IPs and MEMS, participated in the USAID/DG IPs' meeting on PMP revision, held at USAID office on October 8, 2008. The meeting helped to make necessary amendments on the definitions of a number of Mission level indicators as well as the targets, while some indicators were completely dropped. ADVANCE also attended USAID/IPs' general meeting, held at the GHAIN office on October 16, 2008 to discuss a number of key issues, including portfolio review results as well as guidance on performance planning/reporting. USAID also carried out its mid-term external evaluation of the ADVANCE program during this quarter.

Subgrant Finances

During this reporting period, an additional sum of **\$36, 294** was disbursed/advanced to some of the existing partners (AAIN, ZCC, CPPC, CISLAC, and PPDC) all of whom have ongoing projects, bringing the cumulative total of disbursements/advances so far made for all subgrants as at the end of this quarter to **\$1,975, 738.33** (up from \$1,939,444.09 in the previous quarter and excluding consultancies/in-kind subgrants). Of that amount, the subgrantees have expended and retired/ liquidated a total of **\$ 1, 798,008.64** to date (up from the \$1,786,979.80 reported in the last quarter, and excluding consultancies/in-kind subgrants). Also this quarter, the sum of **\$19, 439.49** was incurred on consultancies/ in-kind subgrants including the services procured under the new in-kind subgrant support to PWYP Nigeria, thus the cumulative expenditures incurred on consultancies/in-kind subgrants increased to **\$458, 994.68** (up from \$439,555.19 reported in the previous quarter). Together, the cumulative grand total of expenditures at the end of this quarter, based on retirements/ liquidations of subgrants including expenses from in-kind support and consultancies stands at **\$2, 257,003.32** (up from the \$2,226,534.99 in the last quarter). Table 1 below provides a summary of current subgrant recipients (including those receiving in-kind support) along with each subgrantee's obligated amount, advances/disbursements, expenditures and balances as of the end of this quarter, December 31, 2008.

Subgrant Summary Table

TABLE 1: Summary of Status of ADVANCE Sub-grants and Consultancy (Advances and Actual Expenditures including Balance) as at End of Quarter I, FY 08 (1 st October– December 31st, 2008)												
	Recipient	Start Date	End Date	Project Title	Focus	Advances/Disbursements, Actual Expenditures and Project Status						
						Obligated Amount	Advances to Date (\$)		Expenditures on Advances to Date (\$)		Project Status	
							\$	Advances	Balance on Obligated Amt	Expenditures		Balance Due(Grantee)/P act
	Standard Grants											
1	PWYP	3/30/2006	2/22/2010	Publish What You Pay Campaign in Nigeria	Awareness and advocacy around the NEITI and ongoing oil industry audit process	140,051.18	140,051.18	0.00	140,051.18	-	Terminated	
2	MRA	3/30/2006	3/31/2007	Advocacy on Freedom of Information Bill	Freedom of Information Bill (Legislative /Executive advocacy for the final stages of passage/implementation planning	120,783.57	120,783.57	0.00	120,783.57	-	Closed	
3	IPC	3/30/2006	3/31/2007	Media Strengthening for Reporting on Corruption and Policy Reform	Media audit and capacity building for increased effectiveness of CSOs in using the media for awareness on anti-corruption, trafficking, & budget monitoring	100,393.82	100,393.82	(0.00)	100,393.82	-	Closed	
4	WOTCLEF	3/30/2006	3/31/2007	Public Awareness and Advocacy on Trafficking in Women and Children (Kano, Osun and Cross River States)	Increased awareness, public support and advocacy for more effective policies and enforcement of anti-trafficking laws.	85,000.00	84,262.80	737.20	83,988.34	274.46	Closed	
5	CISLAC	9/20/2006	8/30/2007	Strengthening Civil Society Engagement of the Legislative Process through Targeted Policies	Legislative Advocacy & Tracking of Targeted Bills at NASS	157,987.52	157,987.52	(0.00)	157,987.52	-	Closed	
6	Action Aid Int'l Nig	8/15/2006	2/22/2010	CSO Budget Monitoring & Tracking	National & Focal State	616,142.42	562,885.94	53,256.48	544,436.55	18,449.39	On-going	
7	JDPC/ACE	11/1/2006	12/31/2006	Voter Registration Monitoring in 15 states across all the 6 Geo-Political Zones of Nigeria	Voter Registration and Oversight of INEC	58,000.00	58,000.00	-	58,000.00	-	Closed	
8	CITAD	2/9/2007	5/30/2007	Voter Education Program	Civic Education (Elections) including training of CBOs on voter education; distribution of voter education materials; voter education advocacy visits to traditional rulers and religious leaders; and conduct of voter education forums at grassroots level in 15 Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Kano, Jigawa and Bauchi States in the northern part of Nigeria	29,725.78	27,789.91	1,935.87	28,196.04	(406.13)	Completed	
9	MULAC	2/1/2007	4/30/2007	Right to Vote	Civic Education (Elections) including public awareness lectures for Islamiyya & Conventional schools; Seminar for Imams & Muslim clerics plus public enlightenment & education on the right to vote in 5 States (Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Sokoto and Niger) in the Northern part of Nigeria	18,510.94	18,573.21	(62.27)	18,573.21	-	Completed	
10	ACE	3/1/2007	6/30/2007	INEC Oversight and Stakeholder Advocacy. However, project scope increased to include National Peoples' Tribunal on 2007 Elections	Civic Education (Elections) including tracking & reporting of election s activities in some national dailies; advocacy visits to some stakeholders; conduct of town hall meetings with road transport unions & okada riders associations; & production & airing radio jingles in North Central zone of Nigeria	128,223.13	107,627.68	20,595.45	107,481.88	145.80	Completed	
11	FOMWAN	3/8/2007	4/30/2007	Voter Sensitization for Increased Participation & Protection of Mandate at Mosques, Churches, & Market Arenas	Civic Education (Elections) including advocacy visits to state media; road shows on voter education; and radio dialogues in 5 Targeted States (Kogi, Nassarawa, Kano, Niger and Kwara) in the northern part of Nigeria	62,089.84	62,153.37	(63.53)	62,192.76	(39.39)	Completed	
12	ZCC	3/27/2007	5/31/2007	Engaging the Processes of EFCC Amendment Act in Nigeria	Citizen Participation and Oversight including National summit on the passage of EFCC amendment Act; advocacy visits to chairman of Good Governance group in the House of Representatives & to the House ad-hoc committee; and press conference.	35,234.38	34,482.42	751.96	28,305.88	6,176.54	Completed	

13	AAN	5/1/2007	9/30/2008	Strengthening Capacity of CSOs in HIV/AIDS Budget Tracking & Improving Transparency in Resource Allocation for Effective Service Delivery in the Prevention & Treatment of HIV in Lagos State	Civic Participation and Oversight- HIV/AIDS Budget Tracking & Oversight	49,880.06	46,192.22	3,687.84	43,987.82	2,204.40	Completed
14	CIRDDOC	5/1/2007	9/30/2008	Enabling CSOs to Monitor Government Spending on Education in Rivers State	Civic Participation and Oversight- Primary Education Budget Tracking & Oversight	49,326.17	37,224.59	12,101.58	36,632.96	591.63	Completed
15	JDCP, Ijebu-Ode	5/1/2007	9/30/2008	Enhancing CS Capacity to Engage the Public Budget Process through the Drawing of Shadow Budgets in Lagos State	Civic Participation and Oversight- Education & Agriculture Budget Tracking & Oversight	49,994.57	37,732.20	12,262.37	44,676.72	(6,944.52)	Completed
16	CISHAN	5/1/2007	8/30/2008	Enhancing Capacity of CSOs in HIV/AIDS Budget Tracking & Monitoring of Allocation of Resource & expenditures for attaining MDG in HIV/AIDS in Kano & Rivers States	Civic Participation and Oversight- HIV/AIDS Budget Tracking & Oversight	49,946.27	40,063.20	9,883.07	41,890.54	(1,827.34)	Completed
17	ERA	9/19/2007	8/12/2008	Local Empowerment and good governance in Edo/Delta states, South south Zone of Nigeria	Conduct of Survey Research on NEITI process & practice including its Act, publication (e-copy) and dissemination of report; conduct of environmental parliament on NEITI; and advocacy campaign on expanding the mandate of NEITI.	35,433.07	35,025.72	407.35	35,025.72	-	Completed
18	CASS	9/19/2007	9/18/2008	Oil revenue transparency and civic oversight of the NEITI process in Rivers/Bayelsa states, as well as national perception survey in some targeted states in the remaining 5 geopolitical zones in Nigeria.	Desk research on effectiveness of NEITI at State and LGA level; FGD in each state; conduct of 3 capacity building / dissemination workshops for CSOs; and conduct of enlightenment Forums at grassroots level by trained CSOs; Conduct National Perception Survey on NEITI; and provide leadership role to other partners on State Perception Surveys.	86,526.69	79,823.19	6,703.50	79,713.36	109.83	Completed
19	ABGREMO	9/19/2007	3/18/2008	Legislative Advocacy & Capacity Building for CSOs on oil revenue transparency in Akwa Ibom and Cross river state	Legislative Advocacy and Capacity Building for Civil Society Organizations on Oil Revenue Transparency in Akwa Ibom, and Cross River States of Nigeria.	33,064.96	29,765.08	3,299.88	29,765.08	-	Completed
20	WANGONET	9/19/2007	12/18/2007	Capacity Building for CSOs on oil Revenue Transparency and Civic oversight of the NEITI process in Nigeria	Conduct of Training on Extractive Revenues Transparency and Oil Sector Audit to address the identified gaps by CPPC.	27,136.22	18,706.98	8,429.24	17,142.94	1,564.04	On-going
21	ZCC	2/1/2008	9/30/2008	Production of citizens guide to information and process of NEITI as well as engaging government of Nigeria on NEITI audit report	produce a Citizen's Guide to Information & Processes of the NEITI, carryout Legislative/Policy Advocacy on NEITI Audit Process and hold a stakeholder review & dissemination of audit report	48,096.58	21,011.56	27,085.02	15,010.93	6,000.63	On-going
22	MULAC	1/24/2008	3/31/2008	Promoting Muslim Participation in Electoral reform process in Nigeria	Engagement with electoral reform committee	9,762.50	9,751.07	11.43	9,751.07	-	Completed
23	ACE	5/14/2008	7/30/2008	Consultation on the Electoral Reform	Support Performing Musicians Association of Nigeria and the Association of Professional Bodies in Nigeria to provide input to the ERC	30,787.67	29,367.52	1,420.15	29,196.42	171.10	Completed
24	NBA	5/15/2008	6/30/2008	Consultation on the Electoral Reform	Holding a roundtable with members on electoral reforms and drafting of mentioned policy documents.	29,952.91	29,388.89	564.02	27,498.29	1,890.60	Completed
25	CPPC	6/26/2008	12/30/2008	Empowerment of CSOs in Analysing the NEITI Audit and Processes	Assessment of the capacity of CSO/NGOs currently engaged in, or are interested in audit process and NEITI/Oil Revenue budget performance monitoring and evaluation for WANGONET to use and train CSOs; and development and production of a reference manual on NEITI auditing; Analysis of the NEITI Audited reports and Producing reports for Policy/Legislative Advocacy by ZCC.	39,354.00	36,142.28	3,211.72	12,596.38	23,545.90	Completed
26	CISLAC	6/26/2008	11/30/2008	Civil Society Engagement of Government on Oil Revenue Transparency and Civic Oversight of the NEITI Process	Provision of regular technical support on NEITI Act Implementation to NASS Legislators and their support staff, through relevant Committees & Stakeholder review meeting on NEITI Act.	25,915.00	25,419.53	495.47	15,945.17	9,474.36	Completed
27	FOMWAN	6/27/2008	9/30/2008	Consultation on the Electoral Reform	Stakeholder consultation on electoral reform to develop memoranda and submit to the ERC	9,538.00	8,547.01	990.99	8,598.29	(51.28)	Completed
Total						2,126,857.25	1,959,152.46	167,704.79	1,897,822.44	61,330.02	

In-Kind Sub-grants								
	Receipient	Start Date	End Date	Project Title	Amount estimated for In-Kind	Final Grant Value	Amount Due for De-obligation	Status
1	CISLAC, ZCC and AAIN (in-kind)	Various prior to awards	March 1, 2007	Legislative advocacy on the Fiscal Responsibility Bill;	305,235.77	305,235.77	-	Complete
2	JONAPWD	January 23, 2008	February 29, 2008	Mainstreaming Disability Concern in Electoral Reforms	9,198.64	9,198.64	-	Complete
3	JONAPWD	March 1, 2008	March 31, 2008	Disabled Engaging the Politicians & INEC for 2007 Elections	21,812.11	20,118.28	1,693.83	Completed
	PPDC	April 10, 2008	June 30, 2008	PPDC Procurement Watch program	14,825.05	14,825.05	-	Complete
	PWYP	December 10, 2008	December 31, 2008	Annual General Meeting: PWYP	17,795.00	13,090.77	4,704.23	Complete
	Total				368,866.57	362,468.51	6,398.06	

Consultancies								
SN	Receipient	Start Date	End Date	Project Title	Amount estimated for In-Kind	Final Grant Value	Amount Due for De-obligation	Status
1	ZCC	November 6, 2006	December 8, 2006	National Stick to the Issues Launch	2,312.50	2,312.50	-	Complete
2	ZCC	February 8, 2007	April 30, 2007	Regional Stick to the Issues Launch	38,971.83	38,971.83	-	Complete
3	ICTN	March 20, 2007	April 11, 2007	Democratic Right to Vote Credible Candidates into political positions	18,410.55	18,410.55	-	Complete
4	CP	March 19, 2007	April 15, 2007	Improving Citizen's Participation in the 2007 Elections	16,122.85	16,122.85	-	Complete
5	CDD	March 19, 2007	May 31, 2007	Policy dialogue on institutionalizing mechanisms to address violence against women in public life	8,812.51	8,812.51	-	Complete
6	CDA	March 19, 2007	June 30, 2007	Facilitating A Mainstream Youth Agenda In The 2007 Electoral Process	14,242.59	14,242.59	-	Complete
7	YPI	March 26, 2007	April 30, 2007	Nigeria Youth Colloquium on 2007 Elections	18,284.87	18,284.87	-	Complete
	Total				117,157.70	117,157.70	-	

B. Programmatic Results

The ADVANCE program has three primary objectives:

Objective ONE: Strengthened civil society organization (CSO) capacity for effective program and financial management

Objective TWO: Increased CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key policy reforms and civic participation, including in electoral processes

Objective THREE: Strengthened public-private (CSO) partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives

During the reporting period, significant progress was made under each of the key ADVANCE program objectives. Programmatic results are thus elaborated below.

Objective 1: Strengthened civil society organization (CSO) capacity for effective program and financial management

Pact/ADVANCE continued to provide technical assistance to all partners, some of which had on-going projects this quarter. The partners were assisted through interventions consisting of training, mentoring on program implementation and management, monitoring and evaluation, monthly financial reporting, close-out, and quarterly program reporting.

Organizational Capacity and Pre-Award Assessments

This quarter, the ADVANCE Program Coordinator for Capacity Assessments and the Program Officer for Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing, carried out the mid-project organizational capacity re-assessment of 14 relevant partner CSOs (those that qualify under the indicator definition as being “supported”³). They compiled the second organizational capacity index for the targeted partner CSOs and identified an overall average organizational capacity index of 2.83 out of the maximum achievable score of 4 points. The target for the life of the program is 3, and the baseline was 2.18, indicating substantial progress in achieving the capacity-building objectives of the program. See the table below for details of the baseline and the second assessment, as well as the common capacity gaps identified in the second assessment and variance between baseline index and second assessment index.

Table 1: Organizational Capacity Index – Baseline and Second Assessment

S/N	Partner CSOs	Index score (Baseline)	Index score (Second Assessment)	Variance
1	Media Rights Agenda (MRA), Lagos	1.75	2.87	1.12
2	International Press Centre (IPC), Lagos	1.89	2.28	0.39
3	Women Trafficking and Child Labor Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF), Abuja	2.16	3.2	1.04
4	African Network on Environmental and Economic			

³ For a CSO to qualify as being “supported”, it must have a minimum of 1 year worth of funding from ADVANCE, and capacity building support in the form of at least 3 OD trainings

	Justice (ANEEJ) for Publish What You Pay Campaign Nigeria (PWYP)	1.68	2.7	1.02
5	Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC), Abuja)	1.5	2.9	1.40
6	MULAC, Kaduna	1.61	2.2	0.59
7	FOMWAN, Abuja	2.33	3.1	0.77
8	CIRDDOC, Enugu	2.85	3.1	0.25
9	Aids Alliance Nigeria (AAN), Lagos	2.69	3.06	0.37
10	CiSHAN, Abuja	2.56	3.38	0.82
11	JDPC, Ijebu-Ode	2.8	2.97	0.17
12	CASS ⁴	3.25	2.8	-0.45
13	CPPC	1.57	2.71	1.14
14	ZCC	1.85	2.3	0.45
Overall Average Index Score Baseline		2.18	2.83	0.65
Common Capacity Gaps Identified in the Second Assessment				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Governance</i>: Constitution of most of the partners (except FOMWAN, CISHAN, JDPC, WOTCLEF) still needs review; lack of strategic plan by most (except Aids Alliance, FOMWAN and JDPC); lack of updated membership/staff list by some; meetings not regularly held as scheduled by all; lack of adequate documentation of minutes of various meetings -management, board etc by most; most do not have functional board and where it exists most members seem not to fully know their roles and responsibilities as distinct from management functions. Only MULAC is still processing their CAC registration. • <i>Operational and Management Systems</i>: Some relevant policies and procedures manuals/documents are still not fully developed by most; fair project monitoring, evaluation and reporting. • <i>Human Resource</i>: Absence of documented human resource development and management plan as well as recruitment policies and procedures by most • <i>Financial Resources</i>: Absence of standard financial/accounting policies and procedures manual (though most have adapted Pact financial systems), lack of documented resource mobilization plan, lack overall annual operational budget by most. 				

This second capacity assessment as usual, employed a very participatory approach, looking at the results of the first assessment (baseline) and examining the changes made over time. It gave the targeted partners an opportunity to look back at what they have been able to achieve since the initial assessment. It also served as a check on the capacity building interventions so far carried out by Pact Nigeria, assessing their impact, especially the on-going/continuous mentoring.

The assessment results showed among other findings, that most partners had made a number of improvements, with CISLAC recording the highest progress of 1.40 on the organizational capacity index, followed by CPPC with 1.14 and MRA with 1.12. Only CASS, which had some transition challenges that is battling to overcome, had a drop in its organizational capacity index score. The results also identified some capacity gaps that still needed to be

⁴ CASS underwent a disruptive leadership change during this period that negatively affected its score.

improved as indicated in the table above, and relevant mentoring services were provided to the partners during the assessment on possible ways of enhancing some of the capacity gaps, while some will be addressed through training and continuous mentoring by Pact Nigeria.

Please note that the organizational capacity of other partner CSOs not covered in this capacity index were strengthened too, and will continue to be strengthened from time to time for the remaining period of the ADVANCE program, depending on the limited available resources.

Organizational Capacity Assessment of Interfaith Mediation Centre

In this quarter, Pact carried out the organizational capacity assessment of IMC, Kaduna to kick start the organizational capacity building of the organization as requested by USAID. The 3-day intensive participatory organizational capacity assessment of the organization was carried out and facilitated by the Pact Nigeria Capacity Assessment Coordinator and the Program Officer for Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing, from November 24 to 26 at IMC's office in Kaduna. IMC representatives for the assessment were the two co-Executive Directors (Pastor James and Imam Ashafa), the four Directors (Muhammad Sani Isah, Joshua Kurmi, Abudullahi Muhammad and Rev. Bitrus Dangiwa) as well as relevant program and admin/finance staff including some of the volunteers and the newly employed Accountant.

Prior to the assessment, the OCA tool was revised to make it robust and comprehensive as assessment tool for the detailed assessment of IMC. A participatory approach was used including presentation and discussions on the key elements of an effective organization, followed by assessment and scoring of IMC capacity by both IMC and Pact teams. After analysis of the scores and key issues by the Pact team, presentation and discussion of the scores and findings by Pact facilitators was carried out in plenary with IMC. Next, further relevant clarifications were made and the scores and findings accepted by IMC. An overall average organizational capacity index of 1.99 out of the maximum achievable score of 4 points was established as baseline for IMC. The facilitators thereafter worked on the possible capacity building interventions for the key issues identified based on the request by IMC. The organization was extremely happy and satisfied with the entire process and the results of the detailed assessment. Additional details of the results are available upon request. Next quarter, Pact will continue capacity building interventions as it finalizes the proposed organizational development plan with IMC and USAID.

Organizational Mentoring/ Capacity Building

Pact/ADVANCE continued to provide technical assistance to all partners, some of which have on-going projects this quarter. The partners were assisted through interventions consisting of coaching/mentoring on program implementation and management, monitoring and evaluation, and quarterly program reporting. Specifically this quarter, partners were coached through accurate data collection and reporting by the MER officer. The IT consultant gave support to partners this quarter through installation and training on how to use new software, including antivirus software. Review of partners' documents/publications this quarter also gave Pact the opportunity to enhance partners' capacity in the area of quality assurance, technical content and ensuring that their work is adequately edited.

Financial Mentoring/Capacity Building

During this quarter, the Pact ADVANCE Finance Officer provided mentoring and on-the-job training for the ABGREMO accountant during her compliance visit to the office. The Finance

Officer continued to mentor ZCC and other partners as they completed their monthly financial and close-out reports.

Objective 2: Increased CSO capacity for effective advocacy for key policy reforms and civic participation, including in electoral processes

This objective includes information on progress this quarter in regards to Pact and partner activities around legislative advocacy, budget advocacy and electoral reform advocacy.

Advocacy Capacity Assessment

This quarter, the ADVANCE Program Coordinator for Capacity Assessments and the Program Officer for Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing, carried out the mid-project advocacy capacity re-assessment of 14 relevant partner CSOs (those that qualify under the indicator definition as being “supported”⁵). They compiled the second advocacy capacity index for the targeted partner CSOs and identified an overall average organizational capacity index of 2.86 out of the maximum achievable score of 4 points. The target for the life of the program is 3, and the baseline was 2.07, indicating substantial progress in achieving the capacity-building objectives of the program. See the table below for details of the baseline and the second assessment, as well as the common capacity gaps identified in the second assessment and variance between baseline index and second assessment index.

Table 2: Advocacy Capacity Index – Baseline and Second Assessments

S/N	Partner CSOs	Index score (Baseline)	Index score (Second Assessment)	Variance
1	Media Rights Agenda (MRA), Lagos	2.98	3.6	0.62
2	International Press Centre (IPC), Lagos	1.44	2.46	1.02
3	Women Trafficking and Child Labor Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF), Abuja	1.99	3.1	1.11
4	African Network on Environmental and Economic Justice (ANEEJ) for Publish What You Pay Campaign Nigeria (PWYP)	N/A ⁶	2.8	N/A
5	Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC), Abuja	2.44	3.13	0.69
6	MULAC, Kaduna	1.52	2.9	1.38
7	FOMWAN, Abuja	1.89	2.8	0.91
8	CIRDDOC, Enugu	2.4	3.0	0.6
9	Aids Alliance Nigeria (AAN), Lagos	2.1	2.48	0.38
10	CiSHAN, Abuja	2.1	3.4	1.3

⁵ For a CSO to qualify as being “supported”, it must have a minimum of 1 year worth of funding from ADVANCE, and capacity building support in the form of at least 3 OD trainings

⁶ Please note that there was no baseline advocacy capacity assessment for ANEEJ/PWYP using the modified tool then because ADVANCE had disengaged relationships with them as at that time.

11	JDPC, Ijebu-Ode	2.0	3.24	1.24
12	CASS	2.41	2.3	-0.11
13	CPPC	1.11	1.83	0.72
14	ZCC	2.53	2.9	0.37
Overall Average Index Score Baseline		2.07	2.86	0.79
Common Capacity Gaps Identified in the Second Assessment				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Issue is Timely and Significant:</i> There has been too much focus on so many issues at a time without the desired concentration for effective and meaningful engagement and results by most except few such as MRA, CISHAN, WOTCLEF and MULAC that focus on specific issues and are thus making some breakthroughs. Most of the partners need to really work on getting more key decision makers to support their advocacy issues. • <i>CSO Collects Information and Inputs about the Issue:</i> Most of the partners made some improvements in this especially under ADVANCE-supported projects but the partners need to sustain this and apply it to their regular advocacy programming by effectively and efficiently collecting information and inputs on the issues they are advocating for from stakeholders including gender and minority groups. • <i>CSO Formulates a Viable Policy Position on the Issue:</i> Most partners still need improvement in this even though MRA, JDPC and ZCC are doing well in this just like the election partners that worked under the electoral reforms. • <i>CSO obtains and /or allocates Resources for Advocacy on the Issue:</i> All the partners are still weak in this area, especially in terms of allocating their own internally generated financial resources and also aggressively sourcing for and allocating relevant donor funds. • <i>CSO Builds Coalitions and Networks to Obtain Cooperative Efforts for joint Action on the Issue:</i> All partners are progressing well in this in terms of loose coalitions/alliances under the ADVANCE-supported project but they need to sustain this and apply it to their regular advocacy activities. • <i>CSO takes Action to influence Policy or other aspects of the issue:</i> Most of the partners are trying on this but they have very poor documentation of their actions. • <i>CSO takes Follow up Actions, after Policy Decisions are made to foster Implementation and/or to maintain Public Interest:</i> Majority of the partners are yet to get to implementation stage fully but they need capacity enhancement to be able to effectively do follow up actions on policy/Act implementation or maintain/sustain public interest to ensure passage/approval of the targeted unapproved policies/bills • <i>Others Comments:</i> Capacity and experience of all the partners need to be further improved on the entire advocacy process. Virtually all the partners have implemented advocacy activities under ADVANCE-funded projects and others in some cases during the period under review, but all the partners need to improve on documentation of their advocacy efforts. 				

This second advocacy assessment as usual, employed a very participatory approach, looking at the results of the first assessment (baseline) and examining the changes made over time. It provided the targeted partners an opportunity to reflect on what they have been able to achieve since the initial assessment. It also served as a check on the advocacy capacity building interventions so far carried out by Pact Nigeria through mentoring and on-the-job advocacy training for their project implementation.

The assessment results show, that most partners have made significant improvements. MULAC recorded the most progress of a 1.38 increase in its score, followed by CISHAN

with 1.3 and JDPC with 1.24. Only CASS, which had some transition challenges it is battling to overcome, had a drop in its advocacy capacity index score. The results also identified some capacity gaps that still need to be filled, as indicated in the table above. Relevant mentoring was provided to the partners on possible ways of filling some of the capacity gaps. Pact Nigeria will address the rest of the identified gaps through training and continuous mentoring.

Please note that the advocacy capacity of other partner CSOs not covered in this advocacy capacity index was strengthened, too and will continue to be strengthened from time to time for the remaining period of the ADVANCE program, depending on the limited available resources.

Advocacy Skills and Planning Workshop

In contributing to the achievement of the aforementioned objective, Pact/ADVANCE carried out a four-day advocacy skills and planning training in Kaduna in December, with the objectives to:

- Deepen participants' understanding of advocacy skills and techniques;
- Better equip participants to carry out effective advocacy and advocacy campaigns;
- Enable participants to develop effective advocacy plans that can be incorporated into potential proposals to Pact and used to guide ongoing activities

The training had in attendance 30 participants (20 males, 10 females) drawn from Pact ADVANCE existing CSO partners, as well as potential partners. This is in line with the Pact policy of continuing to nurture relationships developed with partners even when their projects have ended. The utility of this approach being that it offers Pact the opportunity to assess the impact of the capacity building efforts overtime. Topics covered during the training included the definition of advocacy, understanding of root causes, steps in the advocacy process, problem analysis, understanding of power dynamics, legitimacy, means of advocacy, understanding the legislative process, setting goals and objectives, lobbying, planning, messaging, media engagement,

The timing of the training was noticeably strategic in the sense that it coincided with the arrival of the evaluation team hired by the Mission to evaluate the ADVANCE program in its mid-term. Thus, the evaluation team had the opportunity of interacting with ADVANCE partners at the training and to observe the ADVANCE team in action.

The training workshop achieved its set objectives, especially that of guiding the participating CSOs through the process of developing advocacy plans. In the weeks and months ahead, Pact Nigeria will follow up with the partner CSOs to monitor those plans, and the real world application of the skills and knowledge imparted to them at that training.

Civil Society Participation in the Budgetary Processes

This quarter, the main partner organization conducting budget advocacy was ActionAid, since most other budget subgrants had completed and the next round had not yet restarted. Budget advocacy work under the Pact ADVANCE program intrinsically ties into Objective two of ADVANCE. The ActionAid ADVANCE team, even though it essentially engages with the budget process at the Federal government level, plays a pivotal role in coordinating the work done by other ADVANCE budget partners, who work at the state level. This quarter, even though the other budget partners' projects have ended, ActionAid continued to involve them in its own activities so they could benefit from the vast technical competence

available within ActionAid. This is consistent with the objective of ActionAid as the lead technical partner in this area working to also grow the capacity of the other partners.

ActionAid

A 3-day review meeting was held at Grange Hill Hotel, Mpape Abuja from October 23 – 25, 2008 by the ActionAid ADVANCE team to monitor progress and provide guidance for the team members in order to realign its activities with the set milestones, thereby repositioning the team to realize its overall objectives. The review meeting also served as a tool to deepen other ActionAid teams' knowledge and involvement in the project as well as update and plan way forward for the project as part of the handover process to the new project coordinator. Participants analyzed challenges/issues on ground, strategies that worked/didn't work, outstanding activities and conducted a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis. Participants also proposed ways forward in terms of realistic recommendations, action points, next steps and existing opportunities to explore in order to enhance its chances of achieving its goals and objectives. Recommendations included: collaborations with the other thematic units in the larger ActionAid family, cost-sharing, involving the M&E unit in its programming, auditing outstanding programs/activities and funds, prioritizing activities in accordance with the ADVANCE PMP and milestones, carrying-out a midterm evaluation, and initiating a more regular interaction of ActionAid's leadership with that of Pact Nigeria in order to ensure early response to requests, team building/bonding, etc. By the end of the meeting, the activities for FY 09 were developed, an implementation strategy was designed for the workplan, and staff training and development needs were identified.

The next activity this quarter took place on Friday November 14, 2008 when the ActionAid ADVANCE team paid an advocacy visit to the Director General, Budget Office of the Federation (BOF) to discuss overall BOF partnership with the ActionAid ADVANCE project, explore and identify specific areas of possible collaboration and support during the budget process, explore timely feedback on budget implementation, as well as to proffer suggestions on how to make budget documents at the national and state levels accessible to the public. The delegation was led by the new AAIN ADVANCE Project Coordinator - Bimbola Adewumi and the Governance Regional Coordinator (Africa) ActionAid International, Hussaini Abdu, with support from other AAIN team members. The Director General appreciated the idea of creating a database of the budget of all the states in Nigeria for easy access by the public and agreed to seek out other platforms to further discuss the prospect and possibilities with the State Governors. He also accepted the importance of timely feedback on budget implementation and welcomed the idea of the AAIN ADVANCE budget expenditure roundtable.

Also this quarter, ActionAid Nigeria and ActionAid International jointly organized an international training on Economic Literacy Budget Accountability for Governance (ELBAG). The training lasted for six days; November 24 - 30, 2008 at the Hydro hotel, Minna, Niger State. The ActionAid ADVANCE project took advantage of the training to build the capacity of key budget stakeholders in Nigerian Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) – deepening their understanding of public finance and analysis, scaling up economic literacy, providing networking opportunities to build synergy for change, and continuing advocacy towards a people-centered budget approach. ADVANCE support was limited to 21 participants from within the country, 11 of whom were females while 10 were males.

Another training this quarter was the Media Advocates program (MAP), designed to upgrade media professionals' knowledge and skills in the area of budget and policy analysis and reporting so that the media will be able to interpret and report the budget and its implementation within the social context. The training was held in December 2008, and was entitled, 'Reporting Beyond the Figure.' It also sought to highlight the role of the media in promoting an open and participatory accountability process, while also seeking to provide a platform to build strategic alliance with public office holders and the civil society. The first run of the training was held for 2 days in the Board room of African Independent Television (AIT), Alagbado Lagos from December 8-9, 2008 while the 2nd run was held for one day at the training hall of The Nation Newspaper in Matori Lagos on December 11, 2008. The same methodology was used during the two trainings. The session started with governance and policies and then proceeded to discussions around the global financial crisis and its implication for the Nigerian budget and economy. Also discussed was the collapse of the rule of law owing largely to corruption in the judiciary, the effect of the power sector on the private sector as a whole, the budget process, media and the budget (creating ownership and sustaining interest), simple tools and calculations to analyze the budget, as well as the community involvement experience on the budget. This was led by two partners in the South West: Justice Development and Peace Commission (JDPC) and Aids Alliance. There were a total of 43 participants; reporters and editors from the electronic media (AIT, Ray power, Voice of Nigeria), the print media (Daily Independent, The Nation, Media Career Services), as well as civil society.



The ADVANCE Coordinator 'Bimbola Adewumi presenting ActionAid resource materials to the Commissioner's team

One particular success this quarter was an advocacy visit paid to the Commissioner of the Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Alausa, Lagos. This was based on the concerns raised by partners and the media on the difficulty of accessing the Lagos State budget. Together, ActionAid along with Aids Alliance and JDPC, urged the commissioner to consider the option of uploading the budget to the state e-governance website for easy access as well as meaningful and

continuous involvement of civil society in the budget process. The contingent of CSOs was able to secure the commitment of the State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget to make the budget more accessible by publishing it at the end of the first quarter on the state government website. They also requested of the advocacy team for any possible support, technical and otherwise, which Pact Nigeria through ActionAid could offer them to get a dedicated budget and planning website up and running. That suggestion offers a window of opportunity for further collaboration, which could be explored to an advantage, and demonstrates attitudinal changes that include increased receptiveness and openness to CSO involvement.

Finally, a participatory budget training was held at the Ejigbo Local Government Council office on Monday December 15, 2008. The purpose of the training was to sharpen the knowledge of 17 staff members on participatory budgeting, with emphasis on effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting. The training was held at the request of the Executive Chairman of the local government council, Mr. Kehinde Bamigbetan, who was worried over

the perceived dearth of capacity within the council's staff body. This training has made dramatic inroads with the Ejigbo local government, and might allow the program to use the council as a model of a champion for participatory budgeting. Moreover, the Chairman mentioned that two other Local Government Councils (Amuwo Odofin and Isolo) have indicated interest in similar training.

CSO Engagement in the Electoral Processes

In the quarter under review, Pact/ADVANCE brought to a close its electoral reform project. The only electoral reform partner CSO that could not complete its project last quarter, the Nigerian Bar Association (due to an organizational leadership transition) did so this quarter. NBA put together the outcomes of its project as memorandum and subsequently submitted it to the Electoral Reform Committee (ERC). The NBA memorandum was widely circulated among the Nigerian CSOs and the media as well as through the Internet. Finally, the ERC also completed its assignment and submitted its report to the President on December 11, 2008. The following, among others, were key recommendations in the various memoranda that Pact-ADVANCE partners submitted to the ERC: proportional representation; independent candidature and a truly independent electoral management body. These recommendations were adopted as part of the ERC's proposals to the federal government of Nigeria. Receiving the Committee's report, President Umar Yar'Adua said that the government would do everything within its powers to ensure that the recommendations are fully implemented with a view to guaranteeing credible electoral processes in the country.

Objective 3: Strengthened public-private (CSO) partnerships to fight corruption through public oversight agencies and initiatives

Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI)

The support of Pact/ADVANCE to partners working on NEITI advocacy continued throughout this quarter. Partners' activities during the period included a review meeting with energy correspondents and CSOs on the NEITI process; capacity building for and engagement with relevant committees of the NASS on EITI issues; CSOs' Needs Assessment Workshop on the NEITI Audit Report; Civil Society Stakeholders' Review Meeting on the NEITI Audit Report 1999-2004 and Support to Publish What You Pay (PWYP-Nigeria) to hold its 2008 Annual General Meeting. All these activities were aimed at bolstering the implementation of Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in Nigeria.

CISLAC

This quarter, with Pact/ADVANCE support, CISLAC held a one-day review meeting with energy correspondents and CSOs on the NEITI process. The meeting, which was held on November 6, 2008 in Abuja, drew 30 participants (9 females, 21 males) from the various media establishments in the country and civil society, particularly those engaging with the oil revenue transparency initiatives. The meeting was born out of the need to ensure that media reports cover oil revenue transparency issues and can be relied upon as effective advocacy tools.

At the end of the discussions, participants recommended the following as the way forward:

- Journalists should endeavor to be more proactive to get authentic data and information; they should not wait until information is received by agencies before

they act on them; they should develop their capacity for effective investigative journalism.

- Owners of media outfits should encourage journalists with better remuneration
- The Hart Group, which is the official Auditor to NEITI should not be involved in the validation process wherein Nigeria's compliance with EITI principles is assessed. This, the participants pointed out would be contrary to the law, given that the Hart Group's involvement raises the likelihood of bias.

In a communiqué at the end of the review meeting, participants called on the federal government to review the Land Use Act, placing ownership of minerals and other extractive resources in the hands of host communities, which should in turn pay tax and royalty to government.

Also this quarter, CISLAC held a two-day technical assistance meeting for the staff of the National Assembly Committees on Petroleum (Upstream and Downstream), Gas, and Solid Minerals on "NEITI Audit Process: Issues and Challenges." The meeting took place on November 27-28, 2008 in one of the National Assembly Committees' meeting rooms. The technical assistance meeting sought to enhance the oversight role of the legislative arm of the federal government on the NEITI activities by building the capacity of the relevant National Assembly committees on NEITI to ensure implementation compliance.

The fourteen participants (10 males, 4 females) were drawn from the four committees (Solid Minerals, Petroleum Downstream, Petroleum Upstream and Gas). The technical sessions covered presentations to the different committees on "The NEITI Audit and Process: Issues and Challenges" by Sam Odiba of Oxfam GB and some selected staff of CISLAC. The Presentations were aimed at updating the knowledge of the Committees' staff on the workings of the NEITI process and how the committees can situate their work within the context of the progress, challenges and prospects in the implementation of the NEITI Act.

The group reflected on the 1999-2004 NEITI Audit Report by the Hart Group. It also pointed out critical issues such as templates filled by extractive companies on accruals instead of cash basis; measurement and control problems; omitted payments by extractive companies, CBN, and other regulatory bodies; payments by companies not traceable in CBN accounts; measurement of royalties; and lack of clarity in the rate of calculation of Petroleum Profit Tax (PPT).

The meeting was highly participatory and the following salient issues were raised by participants:

- Data collection has always been a problem with the various federal government agencies;
- Extractive industries must be prevailed upon to disclose their revenue correctly because the sector remains the major economic life wire of the country;
- There is urgent need for a freedom of information regime;
- The Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) needs capacity building on revenue collection;
- ADVANCE/USAID technical support should be extended to other committees overseeing CBN and FIRS;
- CISLAC should collaborate more with House Committee on Petroleum (Upstream) because it is working on something similar;

- There should be a position paper that can be handed over to the legislators to assist them in carrying out their oversight function;
- The legislature should, as matter of urgency, review issues identified by the NEITI 1999-2004 Audit report to ensure compliance and credibility of the NEITI process.

Zero Corruption Coalition

This quarter, ZCC organized a two-day civil society stakeholders' review meeting on the NEITI Audit Report (1999-2004) which took place on November 26-28, 2008 at Bolton White Hotels, Abuja. Participants were drawn from various academic institutions including the Universities of Ibadan and Port Harcourt; representatives of CSOs, the NEITI Secretariat and the media. The aim of the meeting was to increase the CSOs understanding of the audit report as well as to promote discourse on it. A total of three papers were presented at the workshop:

- *Review of the NEITI Audit Report & Returns 1999-2004* by Dr. Abiodun Folawewo of the University of Ibadan.
- *NEITI Secretariat Engagement of the Nigerian Populace on the NEITI Audit Report* by Uche Igwe, CSO Liaison Officer at the NEITI Secretariat.
- *Tales from the Trenches* by Dr. Peterside Sofiri of the University of Port Harcourt.

They participants discussed that the Audit Report was too technical for the average Nigerian citizen to understand, hence the need for a simplified version of the report. They also asked why it took the NEITI Secretariat so long to release the audit report to the public. Participants also emphasized the need for more awareness on the NEITI audit report to enable the Nigeria populace to understand the link between NEITI audit and economic development.

There were a number of major outcomes of the workshop beyond generally increasing awareness on the NEITI 1999-2004 Audit Report amongst the CSOs. In addition, participants used the forum to reiterate the need for the NEITI Secretariat to release without further delay the 2005 NEITI Audit Report. Perhaps most significantly, participants also requested that the dead NEITI-CSO Steering Committee should be resuscitated to increase CSO engagement with the NEITI Secretariat and other government agencies working on EITI issues. The NEITI Secretariat promptly granted the request and the NEITI-CSOs Steering Committee was re-constituted and several partners of Pact-ADVANCE were appointed as members of the Committee.

The event also enjoyed significant media coverage, and on December 18, 2008, one of the national dailies, ThisDay newspaper, on page 48 critically analyzed the NEITI 1999-2004 audit report. The analysis and report was captioned "NEITI Audit Report: Between Review and Forensic Engagement."

CPPC

CPPC organized a one day CSOs Needs Assessment Validation Workshop on the NEITI Audit process at Excellence Hotel, Lagos October 30-31, 2008. The aim of the workshop was to validate the research findings of CPPC from its CSOs Needs Assessment in relation to the NEITI Audit process. The workshop attracted representatives from civil society working on the NEITI from across the country, members of the academia, and the media. The first day of the program was devoted to paper presentations and analysis of the financial audit, while the second day was strictly dedicated to analysis of CPPC's research findings.

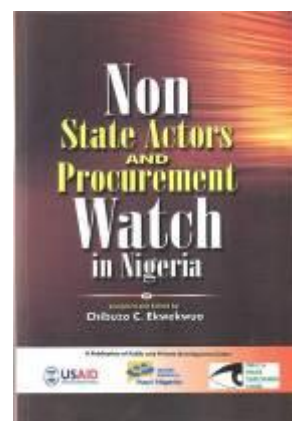
The following presentations took place the first day. “Budget Monitoring and Evaluation” by Dr Babajide Fowowe, Department of Economics, University of Ibadan, followed by “An Evaluation of Audit Process in Corporate Organization” by Dr Adeolu Adewuyi, Department of Economics, University of Ibadan. And finally “NEITI Audit Report (1999-2004)” by Dr. Abiodun Folawewo, the Program Coordinator, CPPC, Ibadan.

The second day of the program started with a presentation by Mr. Idowu Kareem on “Extractive Industry: CSOs Advocacy Needs Assessment Analysis,” which was followed by CPPC’s field survey report. Participants spent considerable time and constructively analyzed CPPC’s research findings. In the end, the research findings were validated. Another ADVANCE partner CSO, WANGONET, is expected to utilize the research findings to design its training for selected Nigerian CSOs working on NEITI Audit advocacy next quarter.

CPPC also drafted a reference manual this quarter to assist Nigerian CSOs and individuals working on NEITI advocacy. The Reference manual contains NEITI audit terms and other concepts in use in the extractive sector. The document is currently undergoing review; with Pact offering suggestions on how best to ensure the material is produced in a simple and user-friendly manner for CSOs/NGOs currently engaging with the NEITI processes. CPPC is expected to edit, publish and widely disseminate the manual next quarter.

PPDC

Last quarter, Pact-Nigeria reported that PPDC was working to produce a book on procurement issues and had compiled and edited all the presentations that were made during its capacity building workshop that took place in Abuja on June 2-3, 2008. Unfortunately PPDC could not publish the book last quarter due to a consultant delay. For this reason, PPDC requested and received a no-cost project extension. The 98-page publication titled “Non State Actors and Procurement Watch in Nigeria” has now been produced as the last part of PPDC’s project activities. The publication has been disseminated to CSOs and a number of other stakeholders such as the Bureau of Public Procurement.



PWYP-Nigeria

Following its establishment in 2004, the Nigeria chapter of the global campaign was at the forefront of the efforts to push for the full implantation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in Nigeria. Pact-Nigeria, through a grant from USAID, was a major funder supporting the work of the PWYP-Nigeria. Unfortunately, the network had some challenges over internal governance issues and it negatively affected the campaign activities and accomplishments of the network. At that juncture, Pact-Nigeria suspended its support to the network pending the time that PWYP-Nigeria would put its house in order.

In December 2008, the leadership of the network approached Pact-Nigeria to support the campaign’s 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM). Pact was also informed that the Chairman of PWYP and its Steering Committee members were ready for a change that would transform the campaign into a better force. The campaign-chairman, Rev. David Ugolor promised to resign from his position for a new chairperson to emerge. He also informed Pact-Nigeria that

the 2008 AGM would resolve most of the problems that had bedevilled the campaign in the past few years. Finally, Ugolor promised that PWYP-Nigeria 2008 AGM would also orchestrate the emergence of an effective Steering Committee that would move the campaign forward. Based on these assurances, Pact–Nigeria agreed in principle to support the AGM in order to help wipe the slate clean. Meanwhile, Pact-Nigeria informed the Chairman of the campaign that it would only support the AGM if the majority of members of the Steering Committee agreed on a date that the AGM would take place, since there was a sharp disagreement among the members on that point. Finally, members of the campaign and the steering committee later reached a consensus and the AGM was fixed for December 12, 2008.

The meeting was well attended by 95 participants, including PWYP members from different states across the country, donor agencies, international NGOs and independent observers. The geographic breakdown of participants was as follows: South-South: 39; South-East: 7; South-West: 11; North-West: 9; North-Central: 23; North-East: 7. In terms of gender representation, 76 males and 19 females attended the meeting.

Aside from the deliberation that took place on different reports and issues that emerged from the meeting, Dr. Otiye Igbuzor, the Country Representative of Action Aid International and Dr Sylvester Odion-Akhane were also invited to make presentations on the *Challenges of Coalition Building and Factors for Successful Network Management*. These presentations went a long way towards setting the stage for the difficult decisions that had to be made in order to rescue the network.

The AGM led to the following achievements:

- Provided a platform for deliberation on the governance structure of the campaign; the campaign policy papers; program and administrative review of reports and proposed activities from the 2008 Work plan;
- Adopted a new governance structure that is similar to that of the proposed PWYP African Governance Structure;
- Accepted the resignation of David Ugolor, the PWYP Chairman (2004 – 2007);
- Dissolved the Steering Committee (2007 – 2008) and elected a new chairperson and Executive Board to manage the campaign for the next three years.

The newly elected Chairperson, Ms. Faith Nwadishi of Koyenum Immaleh Foundation - KIF promised to improve the campaign communications strategies. She also pledged to make the campaign an all-inclusive affair. According to Nwadishi, her immediate tasks would include but not be restricted to:

- Confirmation of PWYP-Nigeria membership registrations with input from Regional coordinators;
- An online review of the 2009 Work Programme;
- An online review of the PWYP Nigeria 5-Year Strategy; and
- An early meeting of the Executive Board.

Pact staff played key roles throughout the workshop to help facilitate solutions to break impasses. Upon the presentation of the financial details of PWYP, controversies almost completely stalled the AGM. It took the intervention of Pact-Nigeria staff to calm the tensions. In his response to some participants' comments, the Deputy Country Representative of Pact-Nigeria said that the Pact audit report indicated that faulty governance structure, poor policy making, and non-separation of powers (in regards to policy formulation and project

implementation) are some of the problems hindering the success of the PWYP-Nigeria campaign. He said that the Pact audit report did not indict any steering committee members specifically, but identified some governance issues as the factors underlining the challenges facing the PWYP-Nigeria. Some participants stood up and thanked Pact Nigeria for the clarification and support for the AGM.

When it came time to elect the new steering committee, controversies once more engulfed the AGM atmosphere and almost scuttled the meeting. Many felt that the inordinate size of the delegation from the previous chairman's region would unduly influence the outcome of the election. Again, it took the intervention of Pact-Nigeria to ameliorate the problem. Pact Nigeria suggested one solution might be for participants to adopt a voting pattern that would allow each geo-political zone to elect a representative to the Executive Board of the Campaign, while a general assembly vote could elect the Chairperson. The intervention of Pact-Nigeria helped to erase the tension that almost put an end to the PWYP-Nigeria 2008 AGM. To avoid a stalemate, Pact-Nigeria representatives enjoined few particularly vocal participants to calm down and vote for the compromise solution that was the only way forward at that point. At the end of the day, it was a win-win election for both the majority and minority participants. Much like the Senate/House compromise in US Governance, the membership agreed to elect the Board by region and the Chairperson by popular vote.

In the end, the PWYP-Nigeria 2008 AGM was as successful as it possibly could have been, given the tensions the campaign continues to deal with. The departure of David Ugolor and the current steering committee, along with the compromise solutions reached at the AGM, may offer the campaign the opportunity to start fresh, but much work needs to be done to make this hope a reality. The campaign secretariat needs serious capacity building, and Pact was enjoined to assist the campaign with that by the AGM membership. If funding can be secured to do so, the campaign will especially need assistance in regards to organizational development, networking and conflict management. In addition, a qualified Program and Finance Manager needs to be recruited to manage the secretariat, and the Executive Board members should not at all be involved in project implementation but solely policy making. Finally, a membership audit should be one of the first activities carried out by the new secretariat.

C. Challenges and Opportunities

Partner and Programmatic Challenges

- Mobilizing the PWYP-Nigeria Steering Committee to agree on the AGM date was quiet challenging. The Steering Committee had difficulty in reaching early consensus on the date to organize the 2008 AGM. This problem affected the participation of some members.
- Delay by some partners in final reconciliation of their completed project accounts resulted in delay of financial closeout of the completed projects.
- Difficulty in securing an appointment with the Chairman Senate Committee on Appropriation stalled ActionAid ADVANCE team's proposed advocacy visit. However, the team has re-strategized to get around the challenge by combining the advocacy visit with the planned presentation to parliament of Civil Society observations and recommendation on the 2009 budget, which is slated for the budget summit in January 2009.

Administration and Management Challenges

- The Pact Nigeria Country Representative continued his paternity leave at the beginning of this quarter. However, his absence allowed for greater coordination with Pact's Regional Office, as representative from there helped support the Acting Country Representative, who also had an opportunity to further build his capacity in that regard. The Country Rep then resumed duties in the first few weeks of the quarter.

Partner and Programmatic Opportunities

- The Public Procurement Act implementation survey that ADVANCE partner-PPDC carried out has provided Pact/USAID with key insights on advocacy activities that could be supported in the future;
- One of the ADVANCE partners, CPPC - successfully analyzed the NEITI 1999-2004 Audit Report this quarter. The same partner has the technical know-how and the necessary experience to embark on the analysis of the NEITI 2005 audit report next quarter. CPPC's analysis of the NEITI 2005 audit Report would help other Pact partners working on NEITI advocacy to be more efficient and effective;
- CPPC and PPDC have track records of successful project implementation at the federal level to commence similar public procurement advocacies at the state and local government levels in Nigeria;
- A DFID implementing partner, Coalition for Change (C4C) recognizes the significance and the impact of the work our partner CPPC is doing on NEITI advocacy in Nigeria. The Coalition decided to collaborate with CPPC to lead a national research activity on NEITI in the country.
- The publication that came out from our partner's advocacy on Public Procurement *The Non State Actors and Procurement Watch in Nigeria* is being distributed. The publication will influence positively the work of CSOs and relevant government agencies on public procurement in Nigeria. More importantly, it will be a working document for public procurement monitors in Nigeria. It will also influence the work of the BPP on Public Procurement Act implementation in the country.
- The report that the ERC submitted to the Presidency captured a significant proportion of our partners' recommendations. The current effort to review/amend the federal Constitution by the National Assembly will further open up a vista of opportunities for our partners to engage the legislature on electoral reform in Nigeria. This is because reviewing the constitution is bound to touch on issues of electoral reform.
- The outcome of CPPC's research findings on the CSO's Needs Assessment on NEITI Audit Report will lead to training opportunities that would further deepen the understanding of Pact partners and other Nigerian NGO/CBOs working on NEITI advocacy.
- The IMC organizational capacity assessment identified a number of exciting capacity building interventions for Pact to pursue.
- The collaboration with ActionAid international on the ELBAG training for key sectors provided an opportunity to train more participants and spend fewer resources, considering it was international training.
- The imminent launch of the REACH program could create opportunity for re-engagement of a number of existing ADVANCE partners and that potentially would deepen the relationship already established under the ADVANCE program.

- The REACH program when launched equally holds prospects for the emergence of relevant advocacy points for ADVANCE to take advantage of; such as the empirical data that would make more compelling the demand for increased HIV/AIDS funding.

Administration and Management Opportunities

- The expected launch of the new Community REACH program would create an opportunity for the ADVANCE program to share facilities, logistics and to a certain degree, staff time, thereby leveraging the inherent advantage of economy of scale.

D. Activity Changes and Explanations

All planned activities (as described in the FY 09 workplan) took place as planned this quarter, so there are no activity changes to report at this time.

E. Success Stories

Activities under the ADVANCE project have continued to yield impressive results, which in many cases have had transformative impact. Some examples of success include the following.

NEITI and PWYP Advocacy

The roundtable on the NEITI 1999-2004 audit report, which ZCC organized this quarter in Abuja ended with participants issuing a communiqué, in which they called on the NEITI Secretariat to resuscitate the dead NEITI-CSO Steering Committee. This call was made to increase the engagement of CSOs with the NEITI Secretariat and other government stakeholders on EITI implementation in Nigeria. The NEITI Secretariat promptly granted the request and a new NEITI-CSOs Steering Committee was constituted with Pact-ADVANCE partners; ZCC, PWYP and CISLAC appointed as members of the Committee. It is expected that the new committee will continually engage with the NEITI Secretariat, the CSO Liaison Officer of the NEITI Secretariat and the Representatives of CSOs in the NEITI National Stakeholder Working Group (NSWG) from time to time on how to move the initiative forward in Nigeria.

PWYP Annual General Meeting

With the support of USAID through Pact-ADVANCE, the Nigeria Publish What You Pay (PWYP-Nigeria) successfully organized its 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM) this quarter. The AGM resolved the internal conflict plaguing the campaign for years – distracting it from its work, turning off donors and holding it back from its potential. By the end of the meeting, PWYP had elected new officials to manage the campaign, set in place new rules and structures, and approved the campaign's action plan for the next fiscal year. Pact Nigeria was one of the two organizations that made the AGM possible, the other being Oxfam/NOVIB. As detailed above, during the meeting itself, Pact staff played critical roles in smoothing over conflicts and helping to arrive at consensus solutions that may yet allow the network to wipe the slate clean, and move forward together on doing the important transparency work that is so needed in the country.

Electoral Reform

The ERC that President Umaru Yar'Adua inaugurated in 2008 has completed its assignment and submitted its final report to the President. A significant proportion of the recommendations made to the Committee by Pact-USAID/ADVANCE partners (ACE,

JONAPWD, FOMWAN, NBA, and MULAC) in the memoranda they submitted to the ERC were adopted and incorporated into the final report that ERC submitted to President Yar'Adua. Some of these recommendations include:

- The adoption of proportional representation;
- Independent Candidature; and
- A truly independent electoral management body etc.

Public Procurement Advocacy

The book *Non State Actors and Procurement Watch in Nigeria* published this quarter by PPDC is now almost an indispensable resource to procurement observers in Nigeria. It renders in a synoptic and yet easy-to-understand fashion, the key provisions of the Procurement Act, while also providing in once piece a compilation of all other documents relevant to the new procurement regime.

Budget Training Request

In a tacit acknowledgement of the impact of ActionAid/Pact ADVANCE budget trainings, the Executive chairman of the Ejigbo Local Government Council requested that the Council's staff be given a budget training, which was held at the Council's office on Monday December 15, 2008. It is impressive to find a public office holder take such steps, and he has also sold the idea to his counterpart LGA chairmen, who have equally expressed interest in a similar training.

III. HIGHLIGHTS OF PLANS FOR NEXT QUARTER

A. Partner Activities

- Production and distribution of Citizens' Guide to the NEITI.
- Production and distribution of NEITI Manual.
- Training of CSOs on NEITI Audit.
- Advocacy to GON on NEITI Audit report.
- Advocacy for increased government funding of the NEITI Secretariat.
- Produce a publication from the analysis of the NEEDS/SEEDS vis-à-vis the budget
- Budget tracking and analysis trainings for CSOs (BAAT).
- Budget expenditure quarterly roundtables in partnership with budget office and MDAs.
- Publication of roundtable report into scorecards.
- Finance and admin training.

B. Subgrant Management

- Support existing partner CSOs through fund disbursements, oversight and mentoring.
- Process requests for no-cost extensions of some projects as the need arises.
- Closeout of completed projects.
- Initiate solicitations for FY 09 subgrants.

IV. QUANTITATIVE INDICATOR DATA

#	Ind. Reference #	Indicator	Collection	Target for FY 09	Quarter Result	Cumulative Result FY 09	Comments
1		Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) representing marginalized group(s) engaging with government	Quarterly	W: 25 Y:= 13 Islm. = 19 Disab.=8 Total: 65	W: 3 Y:= 4 Islm. = 1 Disab.=0 Total: 8	W: 3 Y:= 4 Islm. = 1 Disab.=0 Total: 8	
2	S11.1	Women-focused CSOs supported by USG assistance to engage in advocacy and/or promote democratic participation	Quarterly	25	3	3	
3	S11.1.1	Citizen Input Reflected in Target Policies	Quarterly	n/a	n/a	n/a	Milestones not yet set, as Pact evaluates opportunities for strategic engagement
4	GJD 4.1.1	Number of Civil Society Organizations using USG assistance to promote political participation	Quarterly	n/a	n/a	n/a	Targets not set for FY09 and FY10 as election activities which were the primary source for this indicator ended in FY 08.
5	GJD 4.1.3	Number of CSO advocacy campaigns supported by USG	Quarterly	40	2	2	A number of projects ended this quarter and will be restarted with next quarter's solicitation.
6	GJD 4.1.5	Number of People who Have Completed USG Assisted Civic Education Programs	Quarterly	1,200	205	205	
7	GJD 4.1.8	Number of USG Assisted Civil Society Organizations that engage in advocacy and watchdog functions	Quarterly	30	17	17	

#	Ind. Reference #	Indicator	Collection	Target for FY 09	Quarter Result	Cumulative Result FY 09	Comments
8	S11.1.2	Advocacy Capacity Index	Periodically	n/a	2.86	2.86	End of program reassessment to be measured against the initial baseline.
9		Number of people trained (disaggregated by gender)	Quarterly	Total= 800 M=480 F=320	Total: 205 M=139 F=66	Total: 205 M=139 F=66	
10		Selected Policy and Advocacy Information Available	Quarterly	n/a	n/a	n/a	No target set for this indicator, as it is related directly to indicator 3.
11		Organizational Capacity Index	Periodically	n/a	2.83	2.83	End of program reassessment to be measured against the initial baseline.
12		Civil Society Participation in Budgetary Processes	Quarterly	Nat : 15 State: 10	Nat: 3 State: 2	Nat: 3 State: 2	FY09 Milestones 4,7,8 (Nat.), 11 & 12 (state)
13	S11.2.1	Civil Society-GON partnership to implement the NEITI	Quarterly	8	4	4	Milestones 2, 5, 9 & 14.
14	GJD 4.1.2	Number of Civil Society Organizations using USG assistance to improve internal organizational capacity	Annually	40	2	2	